

tioneer, a horse for which was offered \$125,000, was among the contestants; along with Medio, 2,143, by Pilot Medium; Alcander by Alcanta, and the Earl by Mambrino King, that won in the order named. The championship was easily won by Dare Devil, a black son of Mambrino King. He stands 15.3 hands, is shapely and rugged in his build, and is full of elasticity.

Thoroughbreds were meagerly shown, as only three stallions responded to the call; but saddle horses made a great display. Among the numerous exhibitors of this class, Messrs. Adam Beck, of London, Ont., and George Pepper, of Toronto, were successful competitors, as was also Dr. F. C. Grenside, V. S., formerly of the O. A. C. staff at Guelph, Ont. It is notable that a get of the Hackney stallion, Fordham, and out of a Kentucky saddle mare, won second for Dr. Grenside, in the section for weight-carriers up to 200 pounds. The Canadian stables contributed several winners in various classes.

The Proposed Chicago Fat Stock Show.

A despatch from Chicago, Ill., dated November 24, says: "Definite steps were taken to-day at a meeting of committees from each of the ten United States Live Stock Breeding Associations on the formation of the proposed new association of livestock breeders, commission men and stock-yards officials for the holding of an international fat stock and breeders' exposition in Chicago next fall and in subsequent years. The proposed exposition will be held in the new Dexter Park Pavilion at the Stock Yards and in additional buildings to be erected, it being the purpose to exhibit only cattle in the Pavilion. It is anticipated that breeders from Canada, England and the Continent will compete with American raisers for the premiums offered. It was decided to adopt the name 'The International Live Stock Exposition,' and articles of incorporation will be taken out in Illinois.

The date of the first exhibition was fixed at December 1 to 8, 1900.

Among the premiums available for the show are the following: American Hereford Association, \$5,000; American Shorthorn Association, \$5,000; Polled Angus Breeders' Association, \$5,000; Polled Durham Association, \$1,000; Red Polled Cattle Club, \$1,000; Galloway Cattle Breeders' Association, \$1,000; Cotswold Sheep Breeders' Association, \$500.

The following officers were elected: President, J. A. Spoor; Vice-President, DeWitt W. Smith; Second Vice-President, Alvin H. Sanders; General Manager, W. E. Skinner; Secretary, Mortimer Levering; Treasurer, R. Z. Herrick; Executive: T. F. B. Sotham, cattle; A. J. Lovejoy, hogs; G. Howard Davison, sheep; R. B. Ogilvie, horses; J. Ogden Armour, packers; E. F. Swift, Stock Yards; John Clay, commission; William H. Thompson, Live Stock Exchanges; R. Gibson, Associations; A. G. Leonard, transportation; C. F. Curtiss, Agricultural Colleges.

Feeding Steers for Export.

AN EXTENSIVE FEEDER'S SYSTEM.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

SIR,—At your request, I have no hesitation in giving your many readers a short account of my experience in feeding steers for export. Of course, at the outset, I wish it distinctly understood that I do not claim to know it all, or that the system which I follow is the best one. It will seldom be possible for two feeders to follow exactly the same system, yet both may be successful, judged by results. I have now been feeding from 50 to 100 head each winter for twelve years, but am not prepared to say that I have the proper system, although I can make beef for about 60 per cent. of what it cost me ten years ago, owing, no doubt, to improved methods, and the use of larger quantities of corn ensilage, clover hay and straw, and, of course, smaller quantity of grain. For instance, last year I sold my peas and barley, receiving 60 and 50 cents per bushel, respectively, for them, and bought corn at 37 to 40 cents per bushel; while this year it is doubtful if, at present price for the former grains, it would be profitable to buy the one and sell the others.

Probably I cannot give your readers a better idea of my manner of feeding than by stating the results of my feeding operations during the last season with 80 head, weighing on an average about 1,100 lbs. each when placed in the stables about first of November, and weighing 1,365 lbs. when shipped early in June. I give these figures to show the actual result, leaving your readers to draw their own conclusions. This lot were fed in the following manner: One lot of 40 head were tied in the usual way; were not let out during the feeding period, and having water before them all the time. The other lot of 40 head were fed loose in pens, 15x15, five in each, with water supplied by wind power, as in the case of the lot tied up, and as in

the other case, were not let out during the feeding period. Both these lots, in other respects, were treated practically alike. As these lots were not weighed when placed in the stables, I cannot give the exact gain in each case, but, so far as I can judge, I am perfectly satisfied that those in the pens did equally as well as the lot tied, while the labor in attending them was only one-half. More bedding is required in the case of those loose, but the quantity of manure is greater and of much better quality, the urine being more largely if not all retained.

The daily ration consisted of all the corn ensilage mixed with cut oat sheaves and cut straw slightly dampened (to which the meal was added) they could eat. The meal fed consisted wholly of corn meal, and averaged about six pounds per day for the whole feeding period, starting on about four pounds during first month, and gradually increasing to ten pounds the last month. The clover hay (uncut) was fed as an extra, either at noon or evening.

The two lots consumed during feeding period the products of 30 acres of corn in form of ensilage, 20 acres of oats cut in the sheaf, about 20 acres of clover hay, and 2,000 bushels of corn. This season I purpose feeding a lot for shipment by February, and shall follow the same process, only that after the first ten days will increase the allowance of meal to 10 or 12 lbs. per day. I have no experience in using spice or drugs, but use salt in small quantities daily, mixed with regular feed.

Huron Co., Ont.

D. A. FORRESTER.

Feeding Cattle With a View to Greatest Profit.

SIR,—Extended issues are raised by the questions about feeding steers, but I will only take them up in so far as they affect my own circumstances and system of farming and feeding.

Let it be thoroughly understood that fattening cattle can only be profitably undertaken by those

as cattle fed liberally on grain are slow gainers, and shrink heavily when first put out on grass.

In fattening steers about the same method of feeding is adopted, excepting that at the outset they are given more roots and 4 lbs. daily of a mixture of chopped oats, barley and corn, which is gradually increased till by the middle of January they are receiving 8 to 10 lbs. each daily.

Excepting salt and a little sulphur, I have never given anything beyond natural foods, and therefore can give you no results of the use of spices. Animals that can be finished in three months do well tied up, but those requiring longer feeding give better results running loose, and the saving in labor in the latter method is a most important item not to be overlooked. With very little extra bedding cattle will keep cleaner than in stalls, and, taking everything into consideration, I am decidedly in favor of loose boxes (built long and narrow, rather than square), but some stalls are necessary for tying an occasional steer that is shy in pushing himself up against the rest at feeding time.

Free access to water in the comfortable quarters where cattle are stabled is most essential, as they can then drink at their leisure at such times as their tastes incline them. Even if it is deemed necessary for cattle to be turned out daily for exercise, it is best to provide them with water in the stable.

As to type for feeding, adhere closely to the beef breeds, selecting individuals exhibiting the good characteristics of their breed in a marked degree, avoiding long heads, long necks, and long legs.

Middlesex Co., Ont.

ROBERT McEWEN.

Blanketing or Clipping Horses.

"We have reached," says Col. Edwards in the *Newark Call*, "the conclusion that a heavy blanket on an unclipped horse in the stable is detrimental to his health. Observation and experiment have convinced us that the unblanketed horse in the winter is the healthiest and most comfortable. The best possible condition for a horse to take cold is

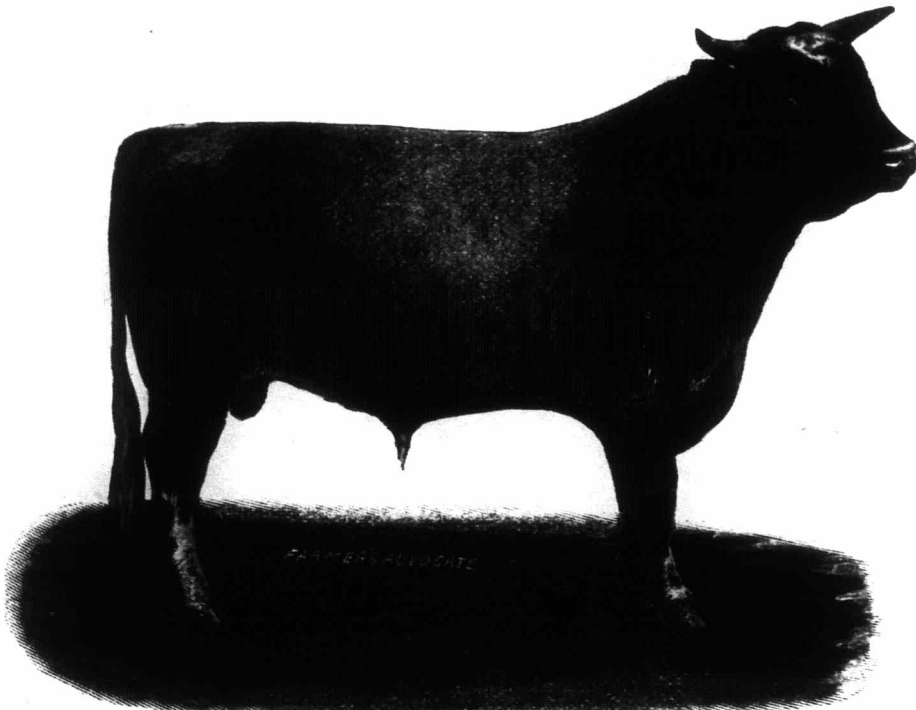
when he comes out of the stable where he has been standing blanketed. The cold air will strike like a knife into every part of his body. A heated horse should not be blanketed when he goes into the stable. A horse with long hair will remain wet all night under a blanket. If the stable is warm and free from draft the horse will be much better off without any covering whatever. Nature provides a covering ample to protect the unclipped horse in this climate in the winter. If more had been needed more would have been provided. We are not speaking idly. For some years we have carefully noted the effect of cold upon blanketed and unblanketed horses. Seven years ago we discarded the blanket, and the result has been entirely satisfactory. No man in his senses would think of wrapping himself up in a warm house and removing the wraps when he went out.

All this refers to unclipped horses. A man who would leave a clipped horse unblanketed in the winter should be arrested and sent to jail. And this brings us to remark that horses whose work causes them to perspire freely in cold weather are better for being clipped. The cold air is not half so penetrating to a clipped horse as to one with his coat on and wet. A clipped horse, if wet, can be rubbed dry in fifteen minutes. The experiment has been thoroughly tested, and men who own horses worth thousands of dollars would not have them clipped if they did not believe they were better for it."

Free Transportation of Bulls to N.-W.T.

In connection with the free transportation on 8 carloads of pure-bred bulls granted by the Canadian Pacific Railway on behalf of the Northwest Territorial Government, we are advised by C. W. Peterson, Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture, Regina, that "the scheme is identical with that of last year. This Department will offer to carry animals from Ontario to Territorial points at the uniform rate of \$5.00. The Canadian Pacific Railway has, however, recognizing the usefulness of the work undertaken by this Department, come forward upon the request of the Department and agreed to co-operate to the extent above indicated. This will enable us to carry out a more vigorous policy in this matter this year than we have been in a position to do in the past."

Under this arrangement the party purchasing a pure-bred bull in Ontario can, upon filing an application accompanied with \$5.00 and a declaration that he is a *bona fide* farmer possessing a certain number of cattle, have the animal delivered to his nearest railroad station under the supervision of the Government, the Government undertaking, through the Dominion Breeders' Associations, the collection, shipping, and distribution of the stock. Last year each applicant was only entitled to get in one animal on these terms, and we understand the same rule applies still. The arrangement is the same as last year, so far as the farmers are concerned. The Government will be saved the freight, but \$5.00 a head is a very reasonable charge, and no one should object to paying that amount.



PRECIOUS STONE.

Imported 2-year-old Shorthorn bull.

PROPERTY OF W. D. FLATT, HAMILTON, ONT.
(See "Gossip," page 672.)

who have started out with the idea in the spring of the year and provided abundance of cheap fodder, such as corn or ensilage, and straw; hay and grain alone will enable a man to produce fat animals, but he who counts at what cost will never follow it. At best the most economical feeding is necessary to obtain a profitable result, and margins are too narrow to permit of waste, or the lack of those inexpensive materials which can be, by forethought, provided.

The treatment of stockers and fattening cattle is entirely different. For the former, daily exercise or confinement in loose boxes is essential; while for the latter, though I prefer them running loose, for "short-keep" ones it is not so important. Steers to be put on grass, I start on a mixture of cut corn fodder, straw, and a little clover hay, dampened, and a little bran and pulped turnips. Of this they are given, morning and night, all they will eat, with long straw in the middle of the day, and a small allowance of hay at 8 o'clock at night. This is continued till about Xmas, when the corn fodder is usually finished. I then give each steer twice a day 2 bushels of ensilage, and after the morning feed from 1 to 1 1/2 bushel of mangels, with 2 lbs., later on increased to 3 lbs., ground barley and oats added. No grain or roots are fed after the evening meal, but follow the roots at noon with uncut straw, and the last thing at night a little hay. Last winter for a time the straw was cut and mixed with the ensilage, but I do not now consider that necessary. My aim in feeding stockers is to obtain from the minimum quantity of grain and inexpensive foods the greatest increase in weight possible.